

INFORMATION ABOUT:



The Sale of Public Land in Wyoming

U.S. Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management

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Public lands in Wyoming

Wyoming's public lands are part of the nation's original public domain. These lands are mostly undeveloped, have no water and often no public access. The larger blocks of public land are located in the western half of the state. Small scattered tracts characterize the bulk of the public land in eastern Wyoming.

Does the Bureau of Land Management in Wyoming ever sell public land?

The answer is a qualified yes. The BLM does not offer much land for sale because of a congressional mandate in 1976 to retain land in public ownership. The BLM occasionally sells parcels of land when land use planning finds disposal is appropriate, especially in areas where the land would benefit another public purpose, such as for the expansion of a town or city. In Wyoming, the BLM has limited public sales of land due to current budget restrictions. The BLM also administers 6,000 acres of public land in Nebraska. Nebraska public land sales are also limited due to current budget restrictions.

Is any land available free through homesteading?

No. Congress repealed the Homestead Acts in 1976.

What do the lands look like?

Land types vary widely. Some may be high plains desert; some are rural. In Wyoming, public lands have little or no agricultural potential. Most tracts have limited or no access as they are totally surrounded by private land, and have no water.

If public land was for sale, what would it cost per acre?

BLM must receive fair market value as determined by an appraisal. Public land can not be sold for less than fair market value.

Where should I look if I want to buy land in Wyoming?

If you would like to purchase land in Wyoming, you would probably be more successful in buying private land through the local real estate market. It is recommended that you contact a real estate agent in the area where you may be interested in acquiring land. Local Realtors provide a much better opportunity for meeting your specific needs.

For more information, call (307) 775-6256.